

AN UNUSUAL FOODPLANT OF THE EYED HAWKMOTH: *SMERINTHUS OCELLATA* (L.). — On the 12th August, 1977, my son and I found three half grown Eyed Hawkmoth larvae, feeding on the Dark Green Laurel (*Laurus nobile*) bordering a school playing field in the Croydon area. There must have been many more, as the adjacent bushes were stripped of their foliage, but no more were found, so I presumed they had pupated.

The three we took continued to feed on *L. nobile*, which I have as a hedge, and in due course pupated. On 4th June, 1978, the first Eyed Hawkmoth emerged, to be followed by a female on 18th June, and another female a few days later. The first to emerge was crippled, but the others are perfect though rather small, and with the markings rather darker than normal and having the pink of a more reddish shade. — W. LOCKYER, 74 Frant Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR4 7JR.

AMPHIMALLON OCHRACEUM KNOCH (COL.: SCARABAEIDAE): AN ADDENDUM. — To supplement my recent note on this beetle (*antea*: 17), I now give two further records kindly furnished by Mr. David Atty, of Cheltenham. He caught an example on the Gower Peninsula, W. Glamorgan, "flying over a sandcliff at Rhossili on a hot sunny day about noon, 14.vi.63" and refers also to a Gloucestershire capture by E. G. Neal (? published) of one flying over hay in the sunshine in June 1938, near Coleford in the western vice-county; but adds that there is no specimen in Neal's collection. These two records are of interest in forming, in some measure, a link (or pair of links) between the previous ones for S. Wales (S.E. Pems.) and the centre in the Berkshire Chilterns. — A. A. ALLEN.

GABRIUS KEYSIANUS SHP. (COL.: STAPHYLINIDAE) NEW TO KENT AND THE SOUTH-EAST. — This *Gabrius*, one of the several species separated by Sharp in 1910 from the old "*nigritulus*", remains one of our rarer species with, apparently, few recorded localities and those all western: on the coast in Devon, Cornwall, Lancs., and in Ireland, Co. Kerry.* To these may be added Dorset (Studland, by the late Mr. P. Harwood and myself, independently), and my friend Mr. S. A. Williams has taken it in recent years in the New Forest. When Mr. Williams and I were collecting at the now well-known flooded sandpits near Lydd, E. Kent, on 1st June of this year, we each found a few specimens of *Gabrius* among various beetles taken by working along the sandy shore of the lake, the males of which yielded the characteristic aedeagus of *G. keysianus*. This is a notable extension of the previously known range of the species in Britain, perhaps recent as is almost surely the case with some of the Coleoptera of the locality. Abroad, *keysianus* occurs rarely on the North Sea coasts of Belgium, Holland and Germany (and nowhere else) and may, therefore, in time be discovered on the east coast of England. — A. A. ALLEN.

* Captures on the Welsh coast would be expected, but I am not aware of any.